

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

1. Starting on page 4, line 4, please amend the following paragraph as follows:

Except that a mixed powder of Si and ~~[[Cd]]~~ Co was used in place of the mixed power of Sn and Fe in such a manner that a composite particle comprised 20 parts by weight of Si as a solid phase A and 80 parts by weight of ~~CdSi₂~~ CoSi₂ as a solid phase B, a negative electrode material G1 was produced on the same conditions as in Example 1. Subsequently, except that the negative electrode material G1 was used in place of the negative electrode material A2, a battery was produced in the same manner as in Example 1.

2. Starting on page 50, line 1, please amend the following paragraphs as follows:

As for the negative electrode materials A1 to A8, in both the case of the negative electrode materials A1 to A4 with the solid phase B comprising the intermetallic compound FeSn₂ and the case of the negative electrode materials A5 to A8 with the solid phase B comprising a solid solution of Fe and Sn, when I_A/I_B was not less than 0.001, the discharge capacity was not lower than 2200 mAh, which was higher than that in Comparative Example 25 where graphite was used as the negative electrode material. Further, when I_A/I_B was in the range of $0.001 \leq I_A/I_B \leq 0.1$ ~~0.1 or less~~, the capacity maintenance ratio was not lower than 90%, which was higher than that in Comparative Example 25 where graphite was used as the negative electrode material. It was therefore possible to obtain a high capacity as well as a high capacity maintenance ratio when I_A/I_B was in the range represented by $0.001 \leq I_A/I_B \leq 0.1$, as in the case of using the negative electrode materials A2, A3, A6 and A7 in Examples 1 to 4.

As for the negative electrode materials B1 to B8, in both the case of the negative electrode materials B1 to B4 with the solid phase B comprising the intermetallic compound

CoSi₂ and the case of the negative electrode materials B5 to B8 with the solid phase B comprising a solid solution of Si and Co, when I_A/I_B was not less than 0.001, the discharge capacity was not lower than 2300 mAh, which was higher than that in Comparative Example 25 where graphite was used as the negative electrode material. Further, when I_A/I_B was in the range of $0.001 \leq I_A/I_B \leq 0.1$ ~~0.1 or less~~, the capacity maintenance ratio was not lower than 90%, which was higher than that in Comparative Example 25 where graphite was used as the negative electrode material. It was therefore possible to obtain a high capacity as well as a high capacity maintenance ratio when I_A/I_B was in the range represented by $0.001 \leq I_A/I_B \leq 0.1$, as in the case of using the negative electrode materials B2, B3, B6 and B7 in Examples 5 to 8.

As for the negative electrode materials C1 to C8, in both the case of the negative electrode materials C1 to C4 with the solid phase B comprising the intermetallic compound VZn₁₆ and the case of the negative electrode materials C5 to C8 with the solid phase B comprising a solid solution of Zn and Cu, when I_A/I_B was not less than 0.001, the discharge capacity was not lower than 2100 mAh, which was higher than that in Comparative Example 25 where graphite was used as the negative electrode material. Further, when I_A/I_B was in the range of $0.001 \leq I_A/I_B \leq 0.1$ ~~0.1 or less~~, the capacity maintenance ratio was not lower than 90%, which was higher than that in Comparative Example 25 where graphite was used as the negative electrode material. It was therefore possible to obtain a high capacity as well as a high capacity maintenance ratio when I_A/I_B was in the range represented by $0.001 \leq I_A/I_B \leq 0.1$, as in the case of using the negative electrode materials C2, C3, C6 and C7 in Examples 9 to 12.